

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7000**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1269

**NOTE PREPARED:** Jan 6, 2006

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Prohibition of Knives in Schools.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Cheney

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** X GENERAL  
X DEDICATED  
FEDERAL

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** The bill makes possessing a knife (with certain exceptions) on school property:

- (1) a Class C misdemeanor for a person who is less than 21 years of age; and
- (2) a Class B misdemeanor for a person who is at least 21 years of age if the blade of the knife is more than two inches in length and the overall length of the knife is more than five inches.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2006.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:**

**Explanation of State Revenues:** There are no data to indicate how many people less than 21 years of age may be convicted of a Class C misdemeanor or how many people at least 21 years of age may be convicted of the Class B misdemeanor.

If additional court cases occur and fines are collected, revenue to both the Common School Fund and the state General Fund would increase. The maximum fine for a Class B misdemeanor is \$1,000, and the maximum fine for a Class C misdemeanor is \$500. Criminal fines are deposited in the Common School Fund.

If the case is filed in a circuit, superior, or county court, 70% of the \$120 court fee that is assessed and collected when a guilty verdict is entered would be deposited in the state General Fund. If the case is filed in a city or town court, 55% of the fee would be deposited in the state General Fund.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** A Class B misdemeanor is punishable by up to 180 days in jail, and a Class C misdemeanor is punishable by up to 60 days in jail. The average daily cost to incarcerate a prisoner in a county jail is approximately \$44.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** If additional court actions occur and a guilty verdict is entered, local governments would receive revenue from the following sources: (1) The county general fund would receive 27% of the \$120 court fee that is assessed in a court of record. Cities and towns maintaining a law enforcement agency that prosecutes at least 50% of its ordinance violations in a court of record may receive 3% of court fees. If the case is filed in a city or town court, 20% of the court fee would be deposited in the county general fund and 25% would be deposited in the city or town general fund. (2) A \$3 fee would be assessed and, if collected, would be deposited into the county law enforcement continuing education fund. (3) A \$2 jury fee is assessed and, if collected, would be deposited into the county user fee fund to supplement the compensation of jury members.

**State Agencies Affected:**

**Local Agencies Affected:** Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

**Information Sources:**

**Fiscal Analyst:** Karen Firestone, 317-234-2106.